

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Maryland
COUNTY:
Queen Anne's
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE:

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
Reed's Creek Farm				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Wright's Neck Road, 2.7 miles NW of Maryland Rt. 18				
CITY OR TOWN:		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:		
Centreville		First		
STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:	CODE:	
Maryland	24	Queen Anne's	035	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
				Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Smith, Jr.				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Reed's Creek Farm				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE:	
Centreville		Maryland	24	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
Queen Anne's County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Courthouse Square				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE:	
Centreville		Maryland	24	
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE
Maryland
COUNTY
Queen Anne's
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Reed's Creek is a late Georgian style brick mansion reputedly begun in 1775. It is composed of two portions, the larger of the two being a five bay structure laid in Flemish bond above a quarter round molded water table. Basement windows have segmental arches with wood grills, with vertical bars, to fit the contour of the opening. The central entrance retains its original architrave, only the pediment being a restoration. Original raised panel jambs emphasize the semi-circular fanlight and original door.

Each window of the house has six over six sash and louvered shutters. The window frames and sash were replaced in the nineteenth century, but two original frames are stored in the attic with some of their walnut sash which had twelve panes in each sash. Above each window is a thirteen inch deep gauged brick flat arch. Between the stories is a five-brick belt course. Beneath the overhang of the wide 'A' roof is a modillion cornice, similar to that at Oak Lawn, Caroline County, Maryland, reputedly built in 1783. (The window frames of the two houses are also similar, the majority of the frame being set behind the outer facing of brick). A massive chimney rises from each gable wall. The building measures approximately fifty feet by thirty-four feet.

On the northeast side is a four bay long, two story brick wing, contemporary with the main structure. It measures approximately thirty-eight by twenty-four feet and, like the main portion, is laid in Flemish bond above a molded water table. It lacks a basement, belt course, and gauged brick arches, but the plain flat arches possess the refinement of a segmentally arched underside, like some houses in Annapolis. Many of the windows retain original frames and sash, the latter having twelve over twelve panes on the first story and twelve over eight on the second. New six panel doors occupy the two middle bays of the wing, one opening into the dining room, the other into the kitchen. The cornice has a series of agee-shaped modillion or dentil blocks, not unlike the kitchen wing at Oak Lawn, Caroline County.

On the gables, original bold barge boards continue along the roof and beneath a projecting water table at the base of the chimneys. Each of the three gables have six pane casement windows flanking the large chimney. An aperture on the first floor of the kitchen gable was bricked in years ago, apparently an exterior door.

The river side of the house is almost identical to the approach facade, except for two differences; the central door lacks a fanlight and pediment and there is only one door into the wing.

(See continuation sheet No. 1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☒ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Reed's Creek is significant chiefly because of its original architectural quality and integrity. With the exception of the replaced window frames and sash, the exterior is largely intact. What was originally completed inside is still in place and in good repair.

Above the fireplace in the den is an overmantel painting depicting the mythological story of Rinaldo and Armida. It is dated and signed by William Clarke, 1792, and is hailed in Winterthur Portfolio 5 as an extremely rare case of classical nudity in eighteenth century American painting.

Another reason for Reed's Creek's importance is that its builder, Colonel Thomas Wright, was active in church, politics and education. He was a vestryman for Chester Church of St. Paul's Parish between 1761 and 1784. In 1781 he served as a visitor of the Queen Anne's County School and in 1782 pledged thirty-two pounds, ten shillings to the founding of Washington College, Chestertown. In the political realm, Colonel Wright was a member of the Committee of Correspondence in 1774 and between 1774 and 1776 he was a delegate to the Provincial Convention. In 1775 he signed the proclamation of the Association of Freemen of Maryland and in 1776 was the commandant of the militia regiment for Queen Anne's County.

There has been some conjecture concerning the lack of completion of the interior of Reed's Creek, some saying it was economic difficulties other, pre-occupation with the war cause. In all likelihood, the reason is that he died before it could be completed and his heirs did not wish or could not afford to complete the undertaking (although it was his heirs who had the overmantel painted). Judging from other houses on the Eastern Shore, the interior seems to date from the post-Revolutionary period. After his death the farm was held by his wife, Rachel (d. 1810), then passing to his son Thomas, in whose possession it remained until 1835. In the Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1793, the building is listed under the name of Rachel Wright and was valued at \$1,000. Richard Alexander Wright inherited Reed's Creek from his father in 1835 and owned it

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

An Account of Washington College in the State of Maryland.
Joseph Crunkshank, Philadelphia, 1784.
Earle, Swepson, Chesapeake Bay Country, Remington Putnam,
Baltimore, 1938.
Earle, Swepson, Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore, Baltimore,
Maryland, 1916.
Emory, Frederick Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Maryland
Historical Society, Baltimore, 1950.
Forman, H. Chandler, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of
Maryland. Easton, Maryland, 1934.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	39° 03' 20"	76° 10' 04"		0	0	0
NE	39° 03' 37"	76° 09' 44"				
SE	39° 02' 59"	76° 08' 48"				
SW	39° 02' 41"	76° 09' 09"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 153.26

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Michael Bourne, Restoration Consultant

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Nov. 15, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:

Great Hopes

CITY OR TOWN:

Sudlersville

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

Arthur C. Townsend

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

Reed's Creek Farm

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

On the southwest gable of the main portion there were originally three windows (other than the two in the attic) placed assymetrically. Another window was installed on the second story level during the recent restoration (1961-69). Beneath the stair landing window, a bulkhead for the basement entrance was reconstructed.

Inside, the floorplan consists of a large stair hall occupying the three southeast bays of the house; a back hall and parlor beyond the stair hall; and two rooms on the northeast side of the house occupying the remaining two bays. Its plan is similar to Bloomingdale (1792), closeby.

Prior to the restoration, the hall was unfinished, lacking woodwork, an appropriate balustrade, the ceiling, and some plaster on the second story. A reproduction early Georgian balustrade replaces the Victorian newel and hand-rail, but the structure and treads are original, as well as the risers and step-ends. Chair rail, cornice, window trim and arch between back hall and stair hall, as well as the mantel of the fireplace beneath the stair and the book-cases in the back hall date from the restoration. Both front and back doors with trim are original, the former retaining its original huge iron box lock and key. The principal doors throughout are composed of six raised panels with wide central stile having bead down the middle, simulating double doors.

All walls have been furred out and new plaster applied. A paneled chimney breast with dentil molded mantel and broken pediment above the crosetted overmantel is the focal point of the living room. Four windows and door have original crosetted trim. Due to the need for heating units, the full impact of the recessed panels beneath the windows is diminished, however the remainder of the raised paneled dado, as well as the dentil and modillion cornice tie the room together with their horizontal lines. Original square hearth bricks were taken from other hearths at Reed's Creek.

Across the hall from the living room, the den possesses one wall of original paneling with overmantel very similar to the living room. A painting on wood of Rinaldo and Armida (see Significance, #8) occupies the overmantel panel. Its broken pediment is a replacement. Flanking the fireplace are closets with recessed panels above which match the recessed paneled dado. The closet doors, windows, door to hall, and newly introduced door to sitting room all have crosetted trim. There is a cornice with dentils.

Adjoining the den and stair hall is the sitting room.

(See continuation sheet No. 2)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) #2

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Queen Anne's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Reed's Creek Farm

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

It, too, has a handsome late Georgian broken pediment overmantel, the pediment being a replacement. A secondary stair ascends six steps in the north corner to a door; its balustrade is original, but handrail and top of newel are restorations. A recessed panel door, beside the stair, leads down three steps to the dining room. On the opposite side of the fireplace is a closet with similar door. The wall area between the tops of the doors and ceiling was originally plastered, but now possesses baluster-shaped grills (for stereo components). The cornice has a row of dentils resembling wall of Troy work and two cove moldings. There is a recessed panel dado around the room and up the stair. A panel in the window soffit of several rooms suggests that there were originally paneled jambs and/or shutters prior to the replacement of the window frames in the nineteenth century.

Access between the sitting room and dining room is gained down three steps in the north closet. Originally, there were two sets of steps in the dining room, one leading to each of the northeast rooms, with a door to the cellar between. Access to the den has been eliminated and access to the basement has been placed in the passage between the sitting room and dining room. A diagonal fireplace in the west corner of the dining room retains its original recessed panel chimney breast. An original corner cupboard balances the fireplace in the south corner. Much of the trim and chair rail is a replacement of the deteriorated original.

Between the dining room and kitchen is a back stair which ascends in a straight run to the second floor. The kitchen fireplace has an eight foot wide span with segmental arch. Above the huge arch are two original features rarely existing in an old kitchen: a wooden back plate from which to hang a clock jack and the rack for spits. An outline in paint on the brick gave the precedent for the restored shelf. Crane and iron pots were found in the fireplace when the restoration began. The remainder of the kitchen has been adapted for modern use.

Floorplan of the second floor main section was the same as the first floor. In order to accomodate facilities for modern living, the back hall was eliminated and two baths installed in its place. Like the first story hall, the second story had little interior finish. All of the woodwork of the hall dates from the restoration. Since the bath occupies the original entrance to the guest room (above the living room), a new door was introduced from the hall. Like the hall, the guest room woodwork, paneling, and finish dates from the restoration.

(See continuation sheet No. 3)

GPO 921-724

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(Continuation Sheet) #3

STATE Maryland	
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(Number all entries)

Reed's Creek Farm

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

The dressing room (above sitting room) retains original wainscot, mantel, closets, and cornice. The mantel has sold crosetted trim with a central plinth block between the trim and shelf. A row of tiny modillions is the focal point of the cornice. An original overdoor with pulvinated frieze is the only such element in the house. The window trim is also unique in having crosettes at both bottom and top of the windows. On the northwest wall a series of closets were installed during the restoration, as well as a door to the master bedroom.

Flanking the fireplace in the master bedroom (above den) are two closets. The fireplace possesses a mantel of lighter composition than that of the dressing room. No ornamentation was employed on either the cornice or trim. The flush board dado is like that in the dressing room.

Above the dining room are two rooms, the southeast room being accessible from both secondary stairs, and the northwest room being a laundry. Originally, the northwest room extended from the back stair to the principal wall and access thereto was gained from both secondary stairs; the southeast room being accessible only from the secondary stair of the principal block. When the corridor was installed along the back stair for access to the southeast room, the wall between the two rooms was found to have a truss system to support the wide span above the dining room. Most of the trim in the two rooms is original, although some closets are new. Northeast of the back stair (above the kitchen) is a small back hall with open-string winder stair to the attic, and two rooms, one now a bath. The stair ascends to the attic in three runs with winders at the turns. Its original balustrade, with turned newels and rectangular balusters and swagged handrail is in fine condition. In the east bedroom is a small fireplace with board closet adjoining. The fireplace wall slopes to accommodate the large throat of the kitchen chimney. With the exception of the dining room and kitchen, all floors are original loblolly pine.

Although the main attic is unfinished, it appears that the builder intended to install at least a ceiling, since the girders have mortise holes to receive ceiling joists. The roofing system divides the house into five bays by queen-post trusses which are joined at two places on each slope of the roof by alternating purlins. This system of roof framing appears in many of the design books of the time. As mentioned previously, two original window frames are stored in the attic along with original walnut sash, a pit saw and walnut plank said to have been stored there since the house was erected.

(See continuation sheet No. 4)

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(Continuation Sheet) #4.

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(Number all entries)

Reed's Creek Farm

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

Rubble stone was used for the walls of the cellar below grade, whereas the interior bearing walls which correspond to the floorplan above are brick. The cellar has a concrete floor and contains the heating system, a work shop and storage area. As usual, there are arch supports below the first floor fireplaces.

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

until 1865, when, for financial reasons, he had to mortgage and finally sell the farm. From 1890 to 1961, the farm was owned by collateral descendants of the Wright family. Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Smith, Jr., are the present owners of Reed's Creek Farm and it was during their ownership that the house was finally brought to completion under the guidance of Albert Kruse, AIA.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Fowble, E. McSherry, "An Example of Classical Nudity in Eighteenth Century American Painting, Rinaldo & Armida," Winterthur Portfolio 5, University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1969.

Maryland, Guide to the Old Line State, Oxford University Press, New York, 1940.

Queen Anne's County Records, (Wills, Inventories, Deeds, etc.)
Queen Anne's County Courthouse, Centreville, Maryland, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

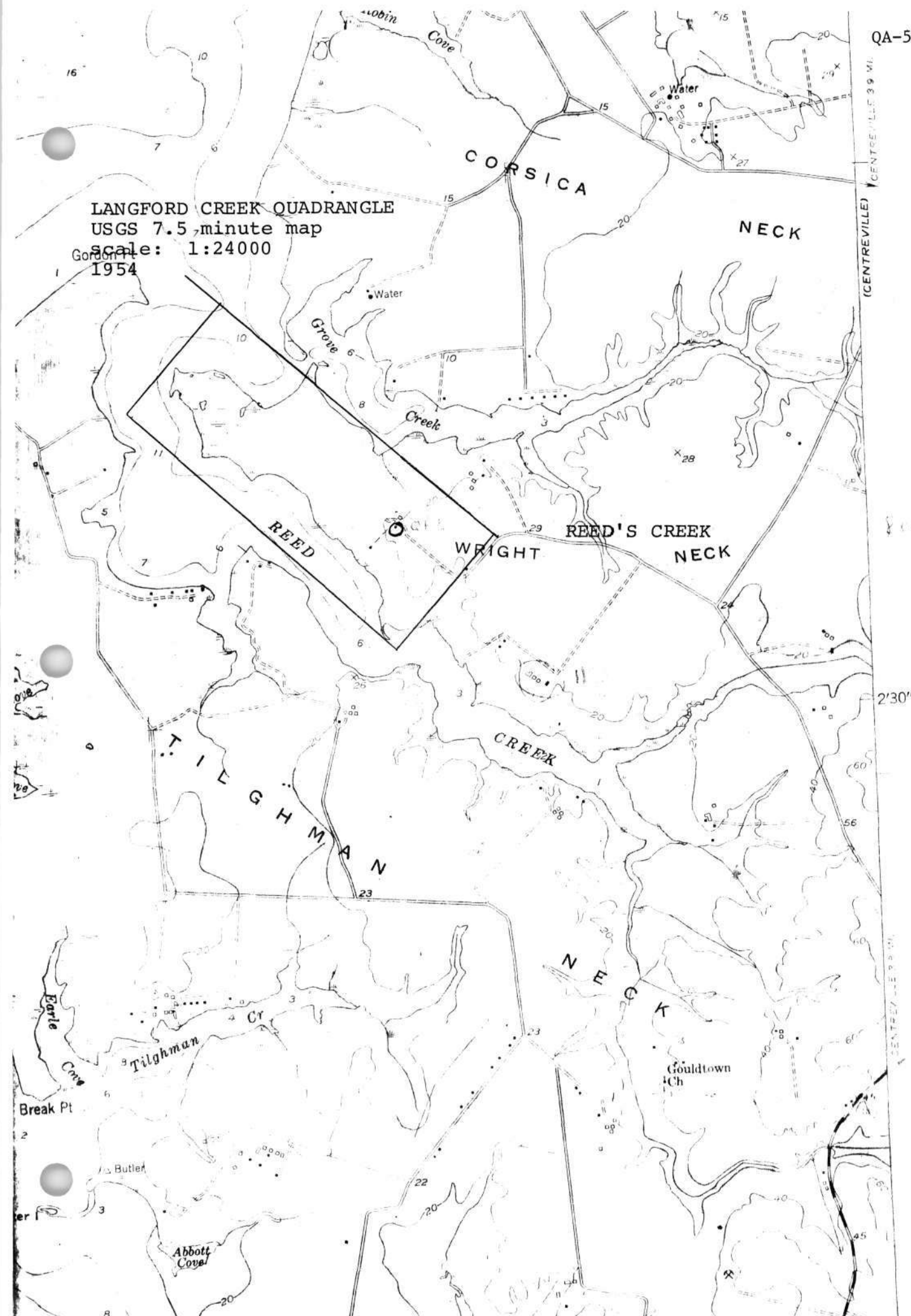
Searborough, Katherine, Homes of the Cavaliers, Macmillan, New York, 1930.

LANGFORD CREEK QUADRANGLE

USGS 7.5 minute map

scale: 1:24000

Gordon Pt
1954



QA-5 Addendum
Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge
404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane
Centreville vicinity, Queen Anne's County

Constructed ca. 1915
Private

The hunting lodge is a circa-1915, two-story, three-bay, front-gable, wood frame structure that sits approximately one-tenth of a mile southwest of the main house at Reed's Creek Farm. It faces southwest, looking towards Reed Creek, and away from the main house. A one-story, one-bay, wood frame garage/boat house is associated with the hunting lodge, and sits approximately 75 yards south.

Built circa 1915, the hunting lodge is located approximately 70 yards from Reed Creek on the western boundary of Reed's Creek Farm, which incorporates a substantial, late-Georgian-style brick house that was reputedly built in 1775 for Colonel Thomas Wright. Architectural evidence and oral tradition both suggest that the lodge was built as either a second home or a hunting lodge by the Wright family, at a time when Queen Anne's County was known as a sportsman's paradise and wealthy people bought county estates as hunting retreats.

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge
QA-5
404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD
History Matters, LLC
December 2007
Sections 3, 4 Page 1

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name	Reed Creek Farm, LLC (Bob Simmons)		
street and number	404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane	telephone	(410) 758-4470
city, town	Centreville	state	MD zip code 21617-2619

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Queen Anne's County	liber	SM 651	folio	757
city, town	Centreville	tax map	34	tax parcel	76 tax ID number 03-030423

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge

QA-5

404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD

History Matters, LLC

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Section 7 Page 1

7. Description

Outbuildings/Secondary Resources

Hunting Lodge

Reed's Creek Farm is located on Wright Neck in Queen Anne's County, approximately four-and-three-quarters miles west of the county seat, Centreville. The main house at Reed's Creek Farm is a circa-1775, Late-Georgian-style, two-story, brick house that was listed on the National Register in 1975. The farm's outbuildings, including the hunting lodge, were not documented at the time of the original nomination. The hunting lodge is a circa-1915, two-story, three-bay, front-gable, wood frame structure that sits approximately one-tenth of a mile southwest of the main house at Reed's Creek Farm. It faces southwest, looking towards Reed Creek, and away from the main house. A one-story, one-bay, wood frame garage/boat house is associated with the hunting lodge, and sits approximately 75 yards to the south.

The bucolic landscape surrounding the hunting lodge slopes gently down to the creek to the southwest of the building. Running to the west of the summer cottage, and parallel to its main axis, a gravel drive leads from the main house at Reed's Creek Farm to a dock at the creek side, which is about 70 yards away. The gravel driveway and agricultural fields flank the lodge on its west, while a large grassy lawn and more agricultural fields lie to the east. Trees of varying species and size are somewhat randomly planted to the north, while to the northeast of the lodge are the remnants of what the current owner identified as a commercial pear orchard. Trees and underbrush line the bank of Reed Creek, except in the immediate vicinity of the dock.

The two-story, three-bay, wood frame hunting lodge is divided into two rooms on the first floor, and three bedrooms on the second floor. It sits on tall, slender piers made of poured concrete with loose, oyster-shell aggregate. The piers have been supplemented throughout by a variety of more recent concrete-block piers, and wood supports. The front-gable roof is in poor condition; it is clad with deteriorated asphalt shingles, and a large hole pierces the roof in the northern corner. An interior brick chimney with a corbelled cap is set back from the façade two-thirds of the length of the cottage. The first story is clad in asbestos shingles, while the second story features wood shingle cladding. Each elevation of the cottage features a porch.

Visually, the façade (south elevation) is dominated by the complex of porches attached to it. A porch wraps around the first story of the façade onto both the west and east elevations; it is screened on the façade and west elevations, and open on the east, and is reached by steps that span nearly the length of the façade. The porch is supported by rustic log posts. The building's second story overhangs this porch on the façade side only. A shed-roofed wood porch extends further yet from the second story, sheltering a ten-foot-square area in front of the entry porch. This projecting porch is supported by tall, square wood posts that are set into poured concrete piers with battered sides.

The first story of the façade is symmetrically arranged with two windows flanking the entry. The windows are six-over-six wood sash; the upper sash is fixed, but the lower sash slides into a pocket in the wall. The four-panel wood door has a metal case lock with a porcelain doorknob. Both windows and doors feature square-edged wood surrounds with an ogee-molded cornice; the windows are flanked by louvered wood shutters. All of the hunting lodge's elevations feature the same window and door surrounds found on the façade. The second-story windows are comprised of six-over-six single-hung sash.

The hunting lodge's west elevation is five bays in length on the first story, including the open bay underneath the projecting second story of the façade. The one-story shed-roofed porch extends two-thirds of the length of the west elevation. The west elevation's doorway is in the central bay of the first story, and windows fill the other three bays of the main block. The windows in this elevation, and in the rest of the elevations apart from the façade, are six-over-six single-hung sash. The four second-story windows are not aligned with those on the first story.

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge

QA-5

404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD

History Matters, LLC

December 2007

Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

The north elevation is two bays wide, with the doorway in the easternmost bay. The doorway features a metal door with jalousie windows, and is the only one of the building's five entries that does not exhibit the door found on the façade. A one-story, two-bay, shed-roofed porch spans three-quarters of the length of the north elevation, beginning at the eastern corner. This porch is unenclosed, is supported by square wood posts, and sits on concrete-block footers.

Like the west elevation, the hunting lodge's east elevation is five bays in length on the first story, with a window in each of the outermost bays of the main block's first story. Doorways fill the two innermost bays of the first story. The second story has four windows that are not aligned with those on the first story.

The interior of the hunting lodge has undergone dramatic alterations since its construction, and it is thus difficult to discern the original floor plan. The only aspect of the interior that seems to be original is the wood stairway to the second floor, which may, however, have been moved. The stairway features a square wood newel post with a ball newel cap, square balusters, and a molded wood rail. The door from the façade opens directly into a large front room, which is divided from the kitchen in the rear by a post-1950, oversized brick firebox and a wood beadboard partition wall. The square-edged wood window and door trim is not original, nor are any of the light fixtures. The walls have been clad with drywall on the first floor, and wood beadboard comprises the majority of the walls on the second floor. The flooring throughout the house, excepting the stair treads, has been covered with vinyl tile. The second floor incorporates three bedrooms and a bathroom. The bedroom in the northern corner of the house is underneath the substantial hole in the roof, and its ceiling has collapsed.

Garage/ Boat House

The garage/boat house sits on a new pressure-treated lumber foundation, and has vertical-board wood siding. It has a double-leaf, vertical-board wood door with machine-made, strap hinges in its south elevation, and a single-leaf door in the north elevation at the west end. The gabled roof is sheathed in corrugated metal; the eaves overhang slightly and are open.

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge

QA-5

404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD

History Matters, LLC

December 2007

Section 8 Page 1

8. Significance

Summary Statement of Significance

Built circa 1915, the hunting lodge is located approximately 70 yards from Reeds Creek on the western boundary of Reed's Creek Farm, which incorporates a substantial, late-Georgian-style brick house that was reputedly built in 1775 for Colonel Thomas Wright; the brick house sits northeast of the lodge. Architectural evidence and oral tradition both suggest that the lodge was built as either a second home or a hunting lodge by the Wright family, at a time when Queen Anne's County was known as a sportsman's paradise and wealthy people bought county estates as hunting retreats.

Historical Narrative

Built circa 1915, the hunting lodge is currently and historically part of the property of Reed's Creek Farm, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Reed's Creek Farm incorporates a substantial, late-Georgian-style brick house that was reputedly built in 1775 for Colonel Thomas Wright. The property remained in the Wright family until the mid-nineteenth century when Colonel Wright's grandson sold the house and its surrounding acreage. In 1890, General William McKenney of Centreville purchased the 218 acres that made up Reed's Creek Farm at that time. McKenney was one of Queen Anne's County's wealthiest merchants who was reputedly related to the Wrights.

At his death in 1897, McKenney owned approximately 60 farms in Queen Anne's County, as well as considerable acreage in Talbot and Caroline counties. It took more than a decade to settle and divide his land holdings. Reed's Creek Farm was partitioned among several heirs, but his granddaughter, Nannie M. Wright, and her husband, Clayton Wright, eventually inherited the property in 1916. At the time of their inheritance, the Wrights lived in Centreville, where Clayton Wright was a merchant at a coal and lumber yard.¹

Architectural evidence and oral tradition both suggest that the lodge was built as either a second home or a hunting lodge circa 1915. Waterfowl such as wild geese, ducks and swan were prevalent along the shores of the numerous creeks in the County, and by the late nineteenth century, the County was noted as "a very paradise of the sportsman."² In addition, wealthy people from outside the County bought old estates to use as country homes or hunting retreats.³ In the late 1920s, the Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce sought to attract tourists and potential residents by advertising that the County "is literally a 'Sportsman's Paradise.' Canvasback, redhead, mallard, black and green-winged teal; and other wild ducks, geese and swan feed in its waters in late Winter, while the Summer brings diamond-back terrapin, snapping turtles, hard and soft shell crabs, Boston mackerel, bluefish...and others of the finny

¹ *Denton Journal* 17 December 1904, "Mr. Clayton Wright of Centreville awarded a bronze medal for corn exhibition in the Palace of Agriculture at St. Louis World's Fair." *Denton Journal* 15 October 1910, "Clayton Wright is president of the Queen Anne's county produce exchange. The exchange is for co-operative crop marketing and it is believed that it will be of great benefit to many farmers . . ." 1910 U.S. Population Census, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, District 3, Centreville, Enumeration District 67, Sheet 12A.

² J. Thomas Scharf, *The Natural & Industrial Resources and Advantages of Maryland* (Annapolis, MD: C.H. Baughman & Co., State Printers, 1892), p. 94.

³ Robert J. Brugger, *Maryland: A Middle Temperament 1630-1980* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988), p. 521.

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge

QA-5

404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD

History Matters, LLC

December 2007

Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2

tribe to its tables.”⁴ Oriented to Reed Creek, the lodge and its associated boathouse provided ample facilities for the hunters who owned or visited Reed's Creek Farm.

Clayton and Nannie Wright may have built the hunting lodge for their recreational use after acquiring the property in 1916. During their ownership, the main residence on the property was leased to a farmer who cultivated the fields. Through the 1920s, the Wrights continued to maintain their primary residence in Centreville, thus it is unlikely that they ever occupied the hunting lodge year-round. In 1961, Nannie Wright sold Reed's Creek Farm to Bradford Smith, Jr. and his wife, Henrietta H. Smith, of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. According to the current owner of the property, the Smiths worked on and lived in the lodge while the main house was under renovation. It may be during this period that the lodge underwent the substantial alterations to the interior including the wood beadboard partition walls, oversize firebox, and second floor bathroom that are visible today.

The current owner plans to demolish the lodge and replace it with a new residence designed to fit upon the existing building footprint.

⁴ Brochure, “Queen Anne's County in the Heart of Del-Mar-Va,” Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce, Centreville, Md., circa 1926. Files of Queen Anne's County Heritage Coordinator, photocopy.

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge
QA-5
404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD
History Matters, LLC
December 2007
Continuation Sheet
Section 8 Page 3

Chain of Title

29 December 1998	Marcia R. Simmons to Reed Creek Farm, LLC Liber SM 651, folio 757 Two parcels described in Exhibit A: #1--159.405 acres described by McCrone, Inc., surveyors in Dec 1996; #2--31 acres known as "Reed's Creek Farm Woodlot" described in survey & plat by S. Chester Coursey, county surveyor July 1, 1915
20 January 1998	Raymond R. Simmons by Marcia R. Simmons (power of attorney) and Marcia R. Simmons to Marcia R. Simmons Liber SM 600, folio 816 Exhibit A: Parcel I--108.246 acres with 50 foot right-of-way, same as Lot 1 in 1997 deed; Parcel II--71.673 acres, Lot 2 on plat of Bradford Smith estate by McCrone Jan 1997; Parcel III--31 acres, Reed's Creek Farm Woodlot, parcel 2 on 1997 deed
26 November 1997	Louisa Smith Heilman, Bradford Smith III and First Union National Bank, personal rep. of estate of Bradford Smith, Jr. to Raymond R. Simmons & Marcia R. Simmons Liber SM 593, folio 720 Bradford Smith Jr. died Sept. 13, 1988; Henrietta H. Smith (wife) died Dec 21, 1984. Exhibit A: Lot 1--108.246 acres; Lot 2--31 acre Woodlot; \$700,000
24 January 1997	Louisa Smith Heilman, Bradford Smith III and First Union National Bank, personal rep. of estate of Bradford Smith, Jr. to Raymond R. Simmons & Marcia R. Simmons Liber SM 575, folio 422 71.673 acre lot--\$1,080,000
30 June 1961	Nannie M. Wright to Bradford Smith Jr. & Henrietta H. Smith (wife) of Bryn Mawr, PA Liber TSP 61, folio 158 Tract #1 "Reed's Creek Farm" (surveyed July 1, 1915) 187.225 acres Tract #2 "Reed's Creek Farm Woodlot"--31 acres
7 September 1916	Deed of Partition & Conveyance made by J. Archibald Mitchell, Susan B. Mitchell, Nannie M. Wright & Clayton Wright, and John McKenney Mitchell Liber WFW 9, folio 396 William McKenney estate--division of estate given to 4 children of Ella L. Mitchell (who predeceased her father, William McKenney). Nannie Wright & Clayton Wright got Parcel #7--Reed's Creek Farm with 218.225 acres
10 March 1890	James E. Bailey to William McKenney Liber WD4, folio 152 Property known as Reed's Creek Farm--171 acres, 3 roods, 6 perches

ADDENDUM

Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge

QA-5

404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD

History Matters, LLC

December 2007

Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

10 March 1890

James E. Bailey to William McKenney

Liber WD4, folio 151

Parcel #1 Reeds Creek—31 acres 35 perches [later known as Reed's Creek Woodlot]; Bailey already purchased parcel of McKenney & paid money without having obtained deed, so has re-sold same to McKenney for \$1000.00

14 February 1883

D.H. Carroll, E.E. Shipley & C.W. Ridge, executors of David Carroll deceased to James E. Bailey

Liber SCD 2, folio 444

Farm of 171 acres 3 roods & 6 perches

ADDENDUM

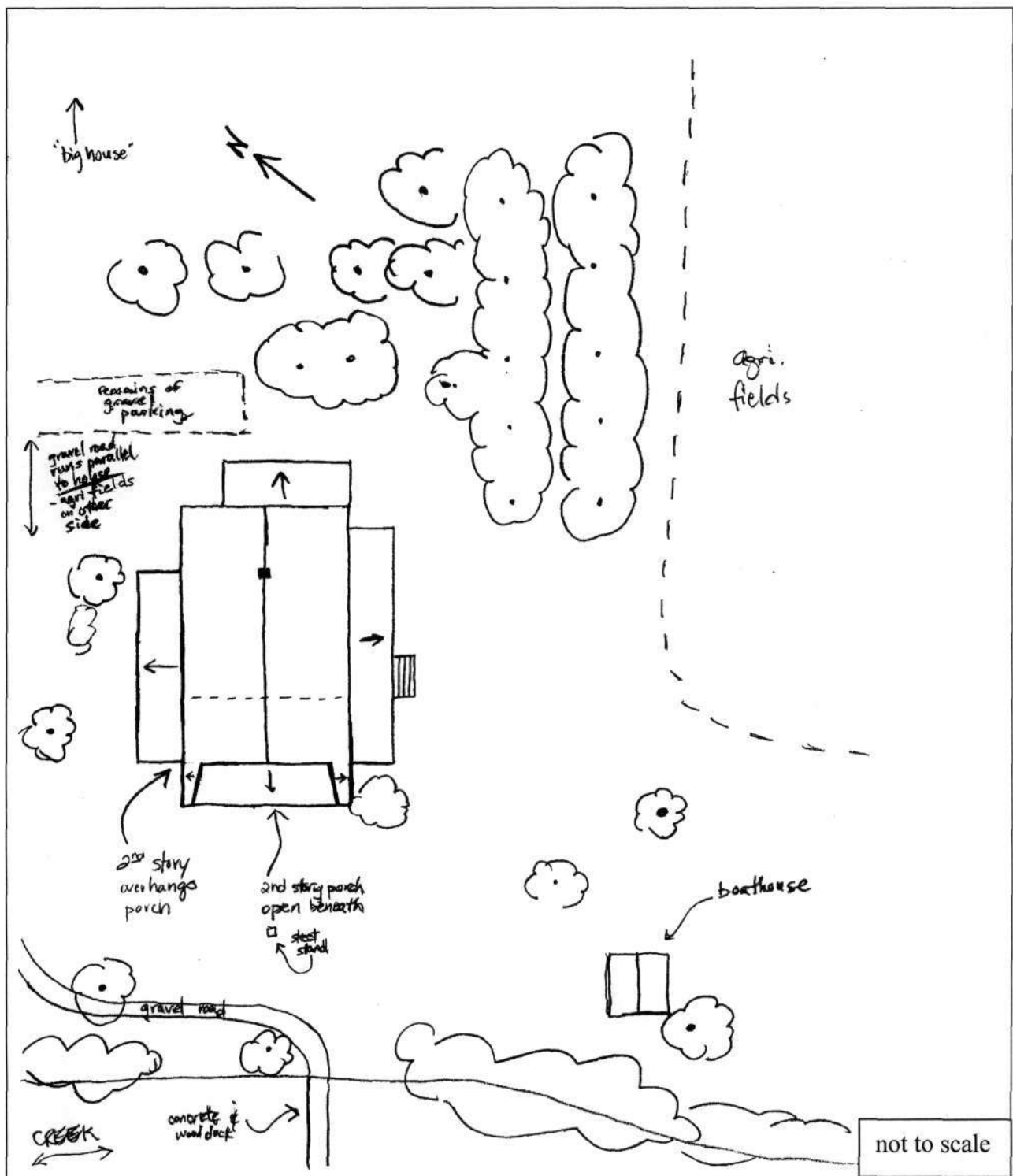
Name Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge
Inventory No. QA-5
404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane, Centreville, MD
History Matters, LLC
December 2007
Continuation Sheet
Sections 9, 11 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bourne, Michael. National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form, "Reed's Creek Farm." November 15, 1974.
Brugger, Robert J. *Maryland: A Middle Temperament 1630-1980*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988.
Denton (Maryland) Journal. Newspaper Archive Website. Accessed June 2007. <<http://newspaperarchive.com>>
"Queen Anne's County in the Heart of Del-Mar-Va." Brochure, Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce, Centreville, Md. Circa 1926. Files of Queen Anne's County Heritage Coordinator. Photocopy.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *The Natural & Industrial Resources and Advantages of Maryland*. Annapolis, MD: C.H. Baughman & Co., State Printers, 1892.
U.S. Population Census, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, 1910.

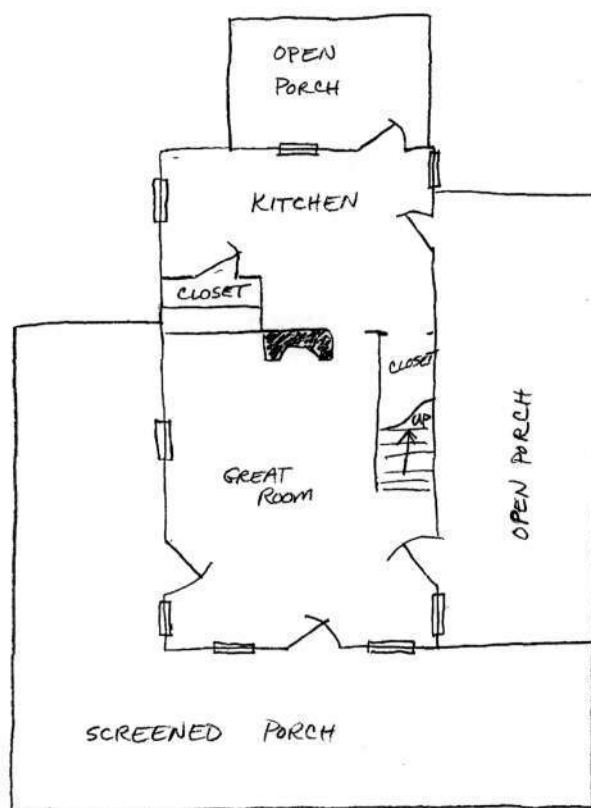
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kathryn Gettings Smith and Gerald M. Maready, Jr., Architectural Historians		
organization	History Matters, LLC	date	December 21, 2007
street & number	1502 21 st Street, NW, 2 nd Floor	telephone	(202) 223-8845
city or town	Washington	state	DC



Site Plan
 QA—5
 Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge
 404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane
 Centreville vicinity
 Queen Anne's County, Maryland

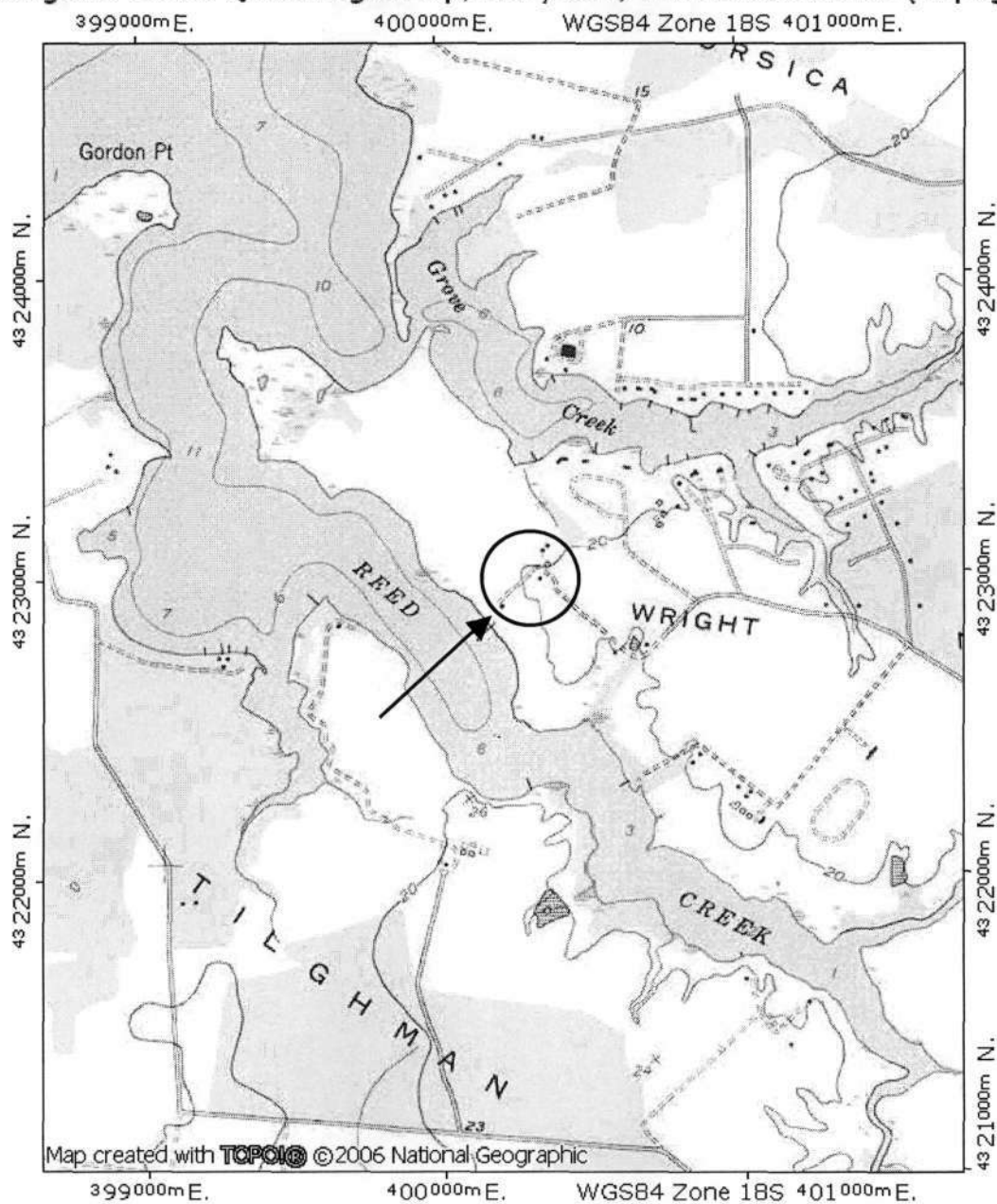
HUNTING LODGE
404 REED CREEK FARM LANE



not to scale

Floor Plan
QA--5
Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting Lodge
404 Reed Creek Farm Lane
Centreville vicinity
Queen Anne's County, Maryland

USGS Langford Creek Quadrangle Map, Maryland, 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic)



QA-5 – Addendum
Reed's Creek Farm: Hunting
Lodge
404 Reed's Creek Farm Lane
Centreville vicinity
Queen Anne's County

0.0 0.5 1.0 miles
 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 km

MN T
 11½°
 05/09/07



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REEDS CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

FACADE - LOOKING NORTHWEST

1 of 16



QA-5
HUNTING LODGE
404 REEDS CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE
QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD
HISTORY MATTERS, LLO
5/2007
MD SHPO
LOOKING SOUTHEAST
2 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

LOOKING SOUTHWEST

3 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

LOOKING NORTH WEST

4 of 16



QA-5
HUNTING LODGE
404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE
QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD
HISTORY MATTERS, LLC
5/2007
MD SHPO
SOUTH ELEVATION
5 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

INTERIOR FRONT PORCH - LOOKING SOUTH

6 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

GREAT ROOM - LOOKING NORTH

7 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

Great Room - LOOKING EAST

8 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

DETAIL - GREAT ROOM NW WINDOW

9 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S Co., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

KITCHEN- LOOKING NORTHWEST

10 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE
404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE
QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD
HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

2nd FLOOR HALL - LOOKING NORTHEAST

91 of 16



QA-5
HUNTING LODGE
404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE
QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD
HISTORY MATTERS, LLC
5/2007
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR HALL - LOOKING SOUTHWEST
12 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

2nd FLOOR BEDROOM LOOKING NORTHWEST TO FRONT PORCH

13 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

BOATHOUSE + LODGE - LOOKING NORTH

14 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

BOATHOUSE - LOOKING SOUTHEAST

15 of 16



QA-5

HUNTING LODGE

404 REED CREEK FARM LANE, CENTREVILLE

QUEEN ANNE'S CO., MD

HISTORY MATTERS, LLC

5/2007

MD SHPO

BOATHOUSE - LOOKING SOUTHWEST

16 of 16

QA-5
Reed's Creek
Centreville vicinity
Private

circa 1775

Begun circa 1775 by Colonel Thomas Wright, Reed's Creek is one of the finest high style Georgian houses in the county. The exterior remains in almost pristine condition except for the window sash, which was replaced in the 19th century. The interior is distinguished by a somewhat unusual floor plan and handsome decorative woodwork. The floor plan consists of an L-shaped stair hall and three rooms on the first floor, similar to the plan of Bloomingdale, a large brick house built in 1792 near Queenstown. The three first floor rooms are distinguished by finely paneled chimney breasts and double crossetted architrave trim. In the northeast room there is an overmantel painting depicting the story of Rinaldo and Armida signed by William Clarke and dated 1792. Other features of interest include the massive principal rafter roof, an early frame pit saw stored in the attic, and two original window frames with walnut sash that have survived intact. The massive kitchen fireplace in the wing is outfitted with many cooking implements found in situ when the house was restored.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

QA-5

MAGI # 1800052204

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Reed's Creek Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Wright's Neck Road, 2.7 miles NW of Maryland Rt. 18

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Smith

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Reed's Creek Farm

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-5

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Reed's Creek is a late Georgian style brick mansion reputedly begun in 1775. It is composed of two portions, the larger of the two being a five bay structure laid in Flemish bond above a quarter round molded water table. Basement windows have segmental arches with wood grills, with vertical bars, to fit the contour of the opening. The central entrance retains its original architrave, only the pediment being a restoration. Original raised panel jambs emphasize the semi-circular fanlight and original door.

Each window of the house has six over six sash and louvered shutters. The window frames and sash were replaced in the nineteenth century, but two original frames are stored in the attic with some of their walnut sash which had twelve panes in each sash. Above each window is a thirteen inch deep gauged brick flat arch. Between the stories is a five-brick belt course. Beneath the overhang of the wide "A" roof is a modillion cornice, similar to that at Oak Lawn, Caroline County, Maryland, reputedly built in 1783.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-5

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
00-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Reed's Creek is significant chiefly because of its original architectural quality and integrity. With the exception of the replaced window frames and sash, the exterior is largely intact. What was originally completed inside is still in place and in good repair.

Above the fireplace in the den is an overmantel painting depicting the mythological story of Rinaldo and Armida. It is dated and signed by William Clarke, 1792, and is hailed in Winterthur Portfolio 5 as an extremely rare case of classical nudity in eighteenth century American painting.

Another reason for Reed's Creek's importance is that its builder, Colonel Thomas Wright, was active in church, politics and education. He was a vestryman for Chester Church of St. Paul's Parish between 1761 and 1784. In 1781 he served as a visitor of the Queen Anne's County School and in 1782

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

QA-5

An Account of Washington College in the State of Maryland.
Joseph Crunkshank, Philadelphia, 1784.
Earle, Swepson, Chesapeake Bay Country, Remington Putnam,
Baltimore, 1938.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Restoration Consultant

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Great Hopes

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Sudlersville

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

(The window frames of the two houses are also similar, the majority of the frame being set behind the outer facing of brick). A massive chimney rises from each gable wall. The building measures approximately fifty feet by thirty-four feet.

On the northeast side is a four bay long, two story brick wing, contemporary with the main structure. It measures approximately thirty-eight by twenty-four feet and, like the main portion, is laid in Flemish bond above a molded water table. It lacks a basement, belt course, and gauged brick arches, but the plain flat arches possess the refinement of a segmentally arched underside, like some houses in Annapolis. Many of the windows retain original frames and sash, the latter having twelve over twelve panes on the first story and twelve over eight on the second. New six panel doors occupy the two middle bays of the wing, one opening into the dining room, the other into the kitchen. The cornice has a series of ogee-shaped modillion or dentil blocks, not unlike the kitchen wing at Oak Lawn, Caroline County.

On the gables, original bold barge boards continue along the roof and beneath a projecting water table at the base of the chimneys. Each of the three gables have

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

six pane casement windows flanking the large chimney. An aperture on the first floor of the kitchen gable was bricked in years ago, apparently an exterior door.

The river side of the house is almost identical to the approach facade, except for two differences; the central door lacks a fanlight and pediment and there is only one door into the wing.

On the southwest gable of the main portion there were originally three windows (other than the two in the attic) placed assymmetrically. Another window was installed on the second story level during the recent restoration (1961-69). Beneath the stair landing window, a bulkhead for the basement entrance was reconstructed.

Inside, the floorplan consists of a large stair hall occupying the three southeast bays of the house; a back hall and parlor beyond the stair hall; and two rooms on the northeast side of the house occupying the remaining two bays. Its plan is similar to Bloomingdale (1792), closeby.

Prior to the restoration, the hall was unfinished, lacking woodwork, an appropriate balustrade, the ceiling, and some plaster on the second story. A reproduction early Georgian balustrade replaces the Victorian newel

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

and handrail, but the structure and treads are original, as well as the risers and step-ends. Chair rail, cornice, window trim and arch between back hall and stair hall, as well as the mantel of the fireplace beneath the stair and the bookcases in the back hall date from the restoration. Both front and back doors with trim are original, the former retaining its original huge iron box lock and key. The principal doors throughout are composed of six raised panels with wide central stile having bead down the middle, simulating double doors.

All walls have been furred out and new plaster applied. A paneled chimney breast with dentil molded mantel and broken pediment above the crosetted overmantel is the focal point of the living room. Four windows and door have original crosetted trim. Due to the need for heating units, the full impact of the recessed panels beneath the windows is diminished, however the remainder of the raised paneled dado, as well as the dentil and modillion cornice tie the room together with their horizontal lines. Original square hearth bricks were taken from other hearths at Reed's Creek.

Across the hall from the living room, the den

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

possesses one wall of original paneling with overmantel very similar to the living room. A painting on wood of Rinaldo and Armida (see Significance, #8) occupies the overmantel panel. Its broken pediment is a replacement. Flanking the fireplace are closets with recessed panels above which match the recessed paneled dado. The closet doors, windows, door to hall, and newly introduced door to sitting room all have crosetted trim. There is a cornice with dentils.

Adjoining the den and stair hall is the sitting room. It, too, has a handsome late Georgian broken pediment overmantel, the pediment being a replacement. A secondary stair ascends six steps in the north corner to a door; its balustrade is original, but handrail and top of newel are restorations. A recessed panel door, beside the stair, leads down three steps to the dining room. On the opposite side of the fireplace is a closet with similar door. The wall area between the tops of the doors and ceiling was originally plastered, but now possesses baluster-shaped grills (for stereo components). The cornice has a row of dentils resembling wall of Troy work and two cove moldings. There is a recessed panel dado around the room and up the stair. A panel

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

in the window soffit of several rooms suggests that there were originally paneled jambs and/or shutters prior to the replacement of the window frames in the nineteenth century.

Access between the sitting room and dining room is gained down three steps in the north closet. Originally, there were two sets of steps in the dining room, one leading to each of the northeast rooms, with a door to the cellar between. Access to the den has been eliminated and access to the basement has been placed in the passage between the sitting room and dining room. A diagonal fireplace in the west corner of the dining room retains its original recessed panel chimney breast. An original corner cupboard balances the fireplace in the south corner. Much of the trim and chair rail is a replacement of the deteriorated original.

Between the dining room and kitchen is a back stair which ascends in a straight run to the second floor. The kitchen fireplace has an eight foot wide span with segmental arch. Above the huge arch are two original features rarely existing in an old kitchen: a wooden back plate from which to hang a clock jack and the rack for spits. An outline in paint on the brick gave the

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

precedent for the restored shelf. Crane and iron pots were found in the fireplace when the restoration began. The remainder of the kitchen has been adapted for modern use.

Floorplan of the second floor main section was the same as the first floor. In order to accommodate facilities for modern living, the back hall was eliminated and two baths installed in its place. Like the first story hall, the second story had little interior finish. All of the woodwork of the hall dates from the restoration. Since the bath occupies the original entrance to the guest room (above the living room), a new door was introduced from the hall. Like the hall, the guest room woodwork, paneling, and finish dates from the restoration.

The dressing room (above sitting room) retains original wainscot, mantel, closets, and cornice. The mantel has solid crosetted trim with a central plinth block between the trim and shelf. A row of tiny modillions is the focal point of the cornice. An original overdoor with pulvinated frieze is the only such element in the house. The window trim is also unique in having crosettes at both bottom and top of the windows. On

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.7 DESCRIPTION

the northwest wall a series of closets were installed during the restoration, as well as a door to the master bedroom.

Flanking the fireplace in the master bedroom (above den) are two closets. The fireplace possesses a mantel of lighter composition than that of the dressing room. No ornamentation was employed on either the cornice or trim. The flush board dado is like that in the dressing room.

Above the dining room are two rooms, the southeast room being accessible from both secondary stairs, and the northwest room being a laundry. Originally, the northwest room extended from the back stair to the principal wall and access thereto was gained from both secondary stair of the principal block. When the corridor was installed along the back stair for access to the southeast room, the wall between the two rooms was found to have a truss system to support the wide span above the dining room. Most of the trim in the two rooms is original, although some closets are new. Northeast of the back stair (above the kitchen) is a small back hall with open-string winder stair to the attic, and two rooms, one now a bath. The stair ascends to the attic in three runs with winders at the

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.8 DESCRIPTION

turns. Its original balustrade, with turned newels and rectangular balusters and swagged handrail is in fine condition. In the east bedroom is a small fireplace with board closet adjoining. The fireplace wall slopes to accommodate the large throat of the kitchen chimney. With the exception of the dining room and kitchen, all floors are original loblolly pine.

Although the main attic is unfinished, it appears that the builder intended to install at least a ceiling, since the girders have mortise holes to receive ceiling joists. The roofing system divides the house into five bays by queen-post trusses which are joined at two places on each slope of the roof by alternating purlins. This system of roof framing appears in many of the design books of the time. As mentioned previously, two original window frames are stored in the attic along with original walnut sash, a pit saw and walnut plank said to have been stored there since the house was erected.

Rubble stone was used for the walls of the cellar below grade, whereas the interior bearing walls which correspond to the floorplan above are brick. The cellar has a concrete floor and contains the heating system, a work shop and storage area. As usual, there are arch supports below the first floor fireplaces.

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

pledged thirty-two pounds, ten shillings to the founding of Washington College, Chestertown. In the political realm, Colonel Wright was a member of the Committee of Correspondence in 1774 and between 1774 and 1776 he was a delegate to the Provincial Convention. In 1775 he signed the proclamation of the Association of Freemen of Maryland and in 1776 was the commandant of the militia regiment for Queen Anne's County.

There has been some conjecture concerning the lack of completion of the interior of Reed's Creek, some saying it was economic difficulties; others, pre-occupation with the war cause. In all likelihood, the reason is that he died before it could be completed and his heirs did not wish or could not afford to complete the undertaking (although it was his heirs who had the overmantel painted). Judging from other houses on the Eastern Shore, the interior seems to date from the post-Revolutionary period. After his death the farm was held by his wife, Rachel (d. 1810), then passing to his son Thomas, in whose possession it remained until 1835. In the Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1798, the building is listed under the name of Rachel Wright and was valued at \$1,000. Richard Alexander Wright inherited Reed's Creek from his

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

father in 1835 and owned it until 1865, when, for financial reasons, he had to mortgage and finally sell the farm. From 1890 to 1961, the farm was owned by collateral descendants of the Wright family. Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Smith, Jr., are the present owners of Reed's Creek Farm and it was during their ownership that the house was finally brought to completion under the guidance of Albert Kruse, AIA.

CONTINUATION SHEET

9.1 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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QA-5
Reed's Creek Farm

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT





CPA #5

Reed's Creek



QA-5

Reeds Creek,
Centerville



Reed's Creek 945
M.L. Regiments
10/74



Reed's Creek QH

1974

M. L. Reynolds

Reed's Creek at -5
10/74
M. L. Reynolds



Reid's Creek M.L. Regiment 1974

Reid's Creek QA-5
M.L. Regiment
10/74

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